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Attorney's Docket No. 4524.P071

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

John D. Watt

Application No. 10/061,557

Filed: February 1, 2002

For: FAST STEERING MIRROR

Examiner: Euncha P. Cherry

Art Unit: 2818

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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND DRAWING CORRECTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction in the Office Action mailed August 10, 2003, the Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute species 1 with traversal.

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TRAVERSAL OF THE RESTRICTION

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction of the present Office Action. The Examiner asserts that the application contains claims directed to three patentably distinct species:

Species 1: Fig. 2

Species 2: Fig. 7A; and

Species 3: Fig. 11.

The Examiner further states "Currently, it appears there is no generic claim."

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is a generic claim. There are two independent claims in the application: claim 1, and claim 15. Claim 1 covers both the embodiments of Fig. 2 and Fig. 7A. The embodiments of Figs. 2 and 7A are substantially similar. In fact, as stated in the paragraph beginning at the top of page 11,

An exploded isometric subassembly view illustrating a fast steering mirror 110 in accordance with a second embodiment of the invention is shown in FIGURES 7A and 7B. Many of the components in fast steering mirror 110 perform substantially similar functions to corresponding components in fast steering mirror 10; the reference numbers for these components share the last two digits in both embodiments. For example, fast steering mirror 10 includes a mirror 12 mounted to an inner gimbal frame 16, while fast steering mirror 110 includes a mirror 112 mounted to an inner gimbal frame 116.

FIGs. 3A and 3B show top side and underside isometric views of subassemblies corresponding to the exploded view of the first embodiment shown in FIG. 2. Analogous subassemblies are shown in FIGs. 7A and 7B, respectively. One difference between the embodiments is that gimbal axis X' passes through **slots** 70 and 71 formed in gimbal frame 18 in the embodiment of FIGs. 3A-B, while gimbal axis X' passes through **holes** 111 and 113 in gimbal frame 118 in the embodiment of Figs. 7A-B. Another difference is that the base in the base (sub) assembly 62 in the embodiment of FIGs. 3A-B is made of two pieces (gimbal support frame 26 and base 48), while the embodiment of FIGs. 7A-B employs a single piece base 148.